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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

Supply and Distribution of Upland Cotton

For Administrative Use Only

November 29, 1943

Estimates of the supply and distribution of cotton by grades and staple lengths for the current season, require considerable forecasting. The forecasts are revised as often as additional information becomes available for revision. The basis for making them is far from satisfactory and they consist largely of judgments based on information obtained from the Branch's field force, from trade sources and seasonal trends in cotton quality. Changes in weather conditions obviously affect materially the quality of the crop, especially the grade.

In view of the frequent government requests and obvious need for this type of information, estimates are prepared periodically for administrative use only. This is the third set of estimates for the current season and supersedes the two sets prepared earlier.

The attached tables show the estimated supply and distribution of upland cotton for the 1941-42 and 1942-43 seasons, and forecasts for the 1943-44 season, as of November 29, 1943. The carry-over figures for 1941, 1942, and 1943 are based on the classification of a representative portion of stocks on hand each season as of August 1. Production figures in both 1941-42 and 1942-43 are based on the classification of a representative sample of ginnings from these two crops. Total disappearance in both 1941-42 and 1942-43 is computed by subtracting stocks at the end of the season from the season's supply (carry-over plus production). Exports in both of these seasons are based on the classification of cotton exported under lend-lease which accounted for the bulk of the total. Domestic consumption was computed by subtracting exports from total disappearance.

Quality data for the 1943-44 crop is based on the classification of representative samples of cotton ginned through November 13, the assumption of about average weather during the remainder of the season, and the Crop Reporting Board's estimate of production as of November 1 to running bales. This preliminary estimate plus the final estimate for the 1943 carry-over gives supply. Total disappearance is based on a forecast of domestic consumption and exports. It takes into account (1) prospective supplies of various grades and staples; (2) the current rate of mill consumption along with mill capacity and probable mill labor supply; (3) civilian, military, and lend-lease requirements for cotton textiles, in-so-far as information is available; (4) probable exports under lend-lease and exports to such countries as Canada, Spain, etc.

These forecasts are not based on any precise statistical measurements, but rather represent an attempt to provide the best possible appraisal of a complicated subject. It is assumed that the war will continue with both Germany and Japan throughout the 1943-44 season. The 1944 carry-over is computed by subtracting the 1943-44 forecast for disappearance from the supply for that season. No allowance is made for cotton destroyed or for the "city crop" which partially offset each other.

All figures are in running bales. Bureau of the Census reports are the source of the totals for carry-over and production except as otherwise specified.

Grade designations in the tables include the following categories:

"Equivalent grade"	Extra White	White	Spotted	Tinged	Yellow Stained	Gray
"S.M. & higher"	G.M. S.M.	M.F. S.G.M. G.M. S.M.	G.M.	-	-	-
"Middling"	M.	M.	S.M.	G.M.	-	G.M.
"S.L.M."	S.L.M.	S.L.M.	M.	S.M.	G.M.	S.M.
"L.M. & lower"	L.M. S.G.O. G.O. B.G.	L.M. S.G.O. G.O. B.G.	S.L.M. L.M. B.G.	M. S.L.M. L.M. B.G.	S.M. M. B.G.	M. B.G.

Copies of the United States Cotton Quality Report for Ginnings through November 13, 1943, released November 22, 1943 along with supply and distribution tables for 1941-42, 1942-43, and 1943-44 are attached.

Table 1.- Supply and distribution of cotton, 1941-42

Grade and staple length	Supply			Distribution			Carry	
	Carry-	Produc-	Total	Disappearance	Carry-	over		
	over	tion		Dom-	Exports	Total	over	pct.
	1941			estic			1942	Dis.
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	Percent
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	
S.M. & higher								
29/32" & shorter	287	50	337	155	18	173	164	95
15/16" - 1"	547	268	815	473	58	531	284	53
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	760	406	1,166	612	99	711	455	64
1-1/8" & longer	256	105	361	177	4	181	180	99
Total	1,850	829	2,679	1,417	179	1,596	1,083	68
Middling:								
29/32" & shorter	1,521	231	1,752	509	102	611	1,141	187
15/16" - 1"	1,905	1,565	3,470	2,108	309	2,417	1,053	44
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	1,194	1,746	2,940	1,947	130	2,077	863	42
1-1/8" & longer	317	326	643	346	7	353	290	82
Total	4,937	3,868	8,805	4,910	548	5,458	3,347	61
S.L.M.:								
29/32" & shorter	1,395	464	1,859	374	48	422	1,437	341
15/16" - 1"	1,762	1,368	3,130	1,604	180	1,784	1,346	75
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	657	1,475	2,132	1,286	87	1,373	759	55
1-1/8" & longer	129	252	381	239	5	244	137	56
Total	3,943	3,559	7,502	3,503	320	3,823	3,679	96
L.M. & lower:								
29/32" & shorter	357	920	1,277	392	-	392	885	226
15/16" - 1"	653	855	1,508	420	-	420	1,088	259
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	244	371	615	257	-	257	358	139
1-1/8" & longer	27	31	58	23	-	23	35	152
Total	1,281	2,177	3,458	1,092	-	1,092	2,366	217
All Grades:								
29/32" & shorter	3,560	1,665	5,225	1,430	168	1,598	3,627	227
15/16" - 1"	4,867	4,056	8,923	4,605	547	5,152	3,771	73
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	2,855	3,998	6,853	4,101	317	4,418	2,435	55
1-1/8" & longer	729	714	1,443	786	15	801	642	80
Total	12,011	10,433	22,444	10,922	1,047	11,969	10,475	88

Food Distribution Administration, Cotton and Fiber Branch
October 28, 1943

Table 2. Supply and distribution of cotton, 1942-43

Grade and Staple Length	Supply			Distribution			Carry-	
	Carry-	Produc-	Total	Disappearance	Dom-	Exports	Carry-	over
	over	tion		Domestic			over	pct.
	1942						1943	Dis.
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	Percent
S.M. & higher								
29/32" & shorter	164	97	261	88	80	168	93	55
15/16" - 1"	284	216	500	212	127	339	161	47
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	455	497	952	519	61	580	372	64
1-1/8" & longer	180	123	303	116	4	120	183	153
Total	1,083	933	2,016	935	272	1,207	809	67
Middling								
29/32" & shorter	1,141	596	1,737	530	270	800	937	117
15/16" - 1"	1,053	1,788	2,841	1,746	254	2,000	841	42
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	863	2,118	2,981	1,596	312	1,908	1,073	56
1-1/8" & longer	290	371	661	340	14	354	307	87
Total	3,347	4,873	8,220	4,212	850	5,062	3,158	62
S.L.M.:								
29/32" & shorter	1,437	790	2,227	592	47	639	1,588	249
15/16" - 1"	1,346	1,774	3,120	1,908	154	2,062	1,058	51
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	759	1,720	2,479	1,563	54	1,617	862	53
1-1/8" & longer	137	208	345	135	11	146	199	136
Total	3,679	4,492	8,171	4,198	266	4,464	3,707	83
L.M. & lower								
29/32" & shorter	885	716	1,601	433	-	433	1,168	270
15/16" - 1"	1,088	876	1,964	737	35	772	1,192	154
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	358	446	804	342	12	354	450	127
1-1/8" & longer	35	27	62	16	-	16	46	288
Total	2,366	2,065	4,431	1,528	47	1,575	2,856	181
All grades								
29/32" & shorter	3,627	2,199	5,826	1,643	397	2,040	3,786	186
15/16" - 1"	3,771	4,654	8,425	4,603	570	5,173	3,252	63
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	2,435	4,781	7,216	4,020	439	4,459	2,757	62
1-1/8" & longer	642	729	1,371	607	29	636	735	116
Total	10,475	12,363	22,838	10,873	1,435	12,308	10,530	86

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of cotton, 1943-44
(Estimates for administrative use)
(Subject to revision)

Grade and staple length	Supply			Distribution			Carry- over pct. Dis.
	Carry-	Produc-	Total	Dom-	Exports:	Carry-	
	over	tion		estic	Total	over	
	1943					1944	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
							Percent
S.M. & higher:							
29/32" & shorter	93	265	358	111	89	200	158
15/16" - 1"	161	710	871	458	142	600	271
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	372	575	947	482	68	550	397
1-1/8" & longer	183	150	333	146	4	150	183
Total	809	1,700	2,509	1,197	303	1,500	1,009
Middling:							
29/32" & shorter	937	900	1,837	374	301	675	1,162
15/16" - 1"	841	1,640	2,481	1,394	283	1,677	804
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	1,073	1,300	2,373	1,252	348	1,600	773
1-1/8" & longer	307	210	517	272	16	288	229
Total	3,158	4,050	7,208	3,292	948	4,240	2,968
S.L.M.:							
29/32" & shorter	1,588	649	2,237	698	52	750	1,487
15/16" - 1"	1,058	1,875	2,933	1,750	173	1,923	1,010
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	862	1,467	2,329	1,390	60	1,450	879
1-1/8" & longer	199	125	324	125	12	137	187
Total	3,707	4,116	7,823	3,963	297	4,260	3,563
L.M. & lower:							
29/32" & shorter	1,168	450	1,618	575	-	575	1,043
15/16" - 1"	1,192	550	1,742	661	39	700	1,042
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	450	200	650	287	13	300	350
1-1/8" & longer	46	15	61	25	-	25	36
Total	2,856	1,215	4,071	1,548	52	1,600	2,471
All Grades:							
29/32" & shorter	3,786	2,264	6,050	1,758	442	2,200	3,850
15/16" - 1"	3,252	4,775	8,027	4,263	637	4,900	3,127
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	2,757	3,542	6,299	3,411	489	3,900	2,399
1-1/8" & longer	735	500	1,235	568	32	600	635
Total	10,530	11,081	21,611	10,000	1,600	11,600	10,011

Food Distribution Administration, Cotton and Fiber Branch
November 29, 1943

UNITED STATES COTTON QUALITY REPORT FOR GINNINGS THROUGH NOVEMBER 13, 1943

The staple length of the 1943 crop probably will average shorter than that for any other season since 1939, according to the War Food Administration. The grade is expected to be only a little higher than that for the two previous crops which had the lowest grade indexes on record. The shorter staple length this season is generally attributed to dry weather over considerable portions of the Cotton Belt. Unusually favorable weather for harvesting resulted in a relatively large proportion of high grades in early-season ginnings but grades during October dropped below those for the previous season. The grade index in the first half of November, however, was a little higher than for the same period a year ago.

Proportion of Short Staples Up Sharply

The average staple length of ginnings through November 13 was 31.6 thirty-seconds inch against 32.1 a year ago and that for the period November 1-13 was 30.6 against 31.8 in the same period last season.

Short staples (13/16" and shorter) comprised 6.9 percent of total ginnings through November 13, against 2.3 percent a year ago. For the first half of November ginnings of these short lengths were 19.1 percent of the total against 3.9 a year earlier. The bulk of the 691,000 bales of cotton 13/16" and shorter ginned through November 13 was produced in northwest Texas and western Oklahoma. Although most of this cotton is 13/16" the quantity of 3/4" and shorter is up from less than 6,000 bales last season through mid-November to nearly 153,000 bales this season. Almost 41,000 bales of 3/4" and shorter cotton was ginned in the period November 1-13, 1943 as compared with less than 38,000 in the last half of October and less than 1,200 bales in the first half of November 1942.

The lengths 7/8" and 29/32" comprised a somewhat smaller proportion of total ginnings than that for last season but the proportion of 15/16" through 1" is larger than that for last season through November 13.

Cotton longer than 1" was down sharply from last season. Ginnings of 1-1/16" totaled 956,000 bales through mid-November against 1,414,000 bales in the same period last season and that of 1-3/32" 433,000 bales against 744,000 bales.

Long staple (1-1/8" and longer) upland ginnings comprised only 4.7 percent of the total through November 13 against 6.4 percent a year earlier. Ginnings of 1-1/8" were down from 369,000 bales to 182,000 bales. Ginnings of 1-3/16", however, are running ahead of last season. Ginnings of 1-1/4" and longer were down sharply from nearly 90,000 bales last season to only 53,000 bales this season through November 13. For the first half of November ginnings of 1-1/4" and longer were ten times as large last season as for the same period this season.

Grade Index Low Compared With Most Other Years

The grade index of 97.0 for ginnings through November 13 is higher than the index of 96.2 recorded in the same period last season but considerably lower than the average over a period of years. The grade of last season's crop was the second lowest on record. The proportion of rough ginned cotton was less than for last season.

Ginnings of Strict Middling White and Extra White and better totaled more than 1,600,000 bales through mid-November 1943 against less than 840,000 bales in the same period last season. Most of this cotton was ginned earlier in the season but the proportion of Strict Middling, Extra White and higher mainly "irrigated cotton" was running ahead of last season during the first half of November.

Ginnings of Middling were running less than a year ago and those of Strict Low Middling constituted a somewhat larger proportion of the total than a year ealrier. Ginnings of Low Middling, White and Extra White and lower and all grades of Spotted and other colored cotton are running less than last season.

SxP Lower in Grade and Shorter in Staple

American-Egyptian (SxP) ginnings were considerably lower in grade than last season's high-grade crop. Grades 1 and 1-1/2 constituted 64 percent of ginnings through November 13, 1943 against 92 percent a year ago. About 55 percent of the current crop is running 1-1/2" and 1-17/32" against 67 percent of last season's crop in these lengths. Approximately 2 percent was 1-9/16" and longer against 5 percent a year ago.

Indicated Crop About 90 Percent Ginned

Ginnings through November 13 totaled 9,930,593 bales, according to the Bureau of the Census. This was equivalent to almost 90 percent of the indicated 1943 crop. In the corresponding period last season ginnings totaled 10,676,552 bales or about 86 percent of the 1942 crop. These figures include 32,428 bales of American-Egyptian (SxP) cotton ginned from the current crop against 27,678 bales for the same period last season. Indications are that ginnings of American-Egyptian through mid-November constituted about 48 percent of the 1943 crop against 38 percent for the 1942 crop. Current ginnings also include 193 bales of sea island against 614 a year ago.

UNITED STATES: ESTIMATED GRADE AND STAPLE LENGTH OF AMERICAN-EGYPTIAN COTTON GINNED

	November 1-13				Season thru November 13			
	1942 Bales	1943 Bales	1942 Pct.	1943 Pct.	1942 Bales	1943 Bales	1942 Pct.	1943 Pct.
Grade:								
1 and 1-1/2	8,048	5,008	85.6	64.0	25,500	20,760	92.1	64.0
2 and 2-1/2	1,234	2,611	13.1	33.3	2,026	10,466	7.3	32.3
3 and 3-1/2	102	207	1.1	2.6	133	1,189	.5	3.7
4 and 4-1/2	15	4	.2	.1	17	13	.1	*
5	2	-	*	-	2	-	*	-
Below 5 1/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All grades	9,401	7,830	100.0	100.0	27,678	32,428	100.0	100.0
Length (inches):								
1-9/32 & shorter	-	-	-	-	3	2	*	*
1-5/16 & 1-11/32	1	-	*	-	1	-	*	-
1-3/8 & 1-13/32	36	77	.4	1.0	79	1,080	.3	3.3
1-7/16 & 1-15/32	2,616	2,942	27.8	37.6	7,611	12,721	27.5	39.2
1-1/2 & 1-17/32	6,047	4,657	64.3	59.4	18,515	17,918	66.9	55.3
1-9/16 & longer	701	154	7.5	2.0	1,469	707	5.3	2.2
All lengths	9,401	7,830	100.0	100.0	27,678	32,428	100.0	100.0

1/ Includes all bales lower in grade than the lowest official standard.

* Less than 0.05 percent.

UNITED STATES: ESTIMATED GRADE OF UPLAND COTTON GINNED

Grade	November 1 - 13			Season thru November 13		
	1942 Bales	1943 Bales	1942 Pct.	1943 Pct.	1942 Bales	1943 Bales
Extra White:						
G.M.	3,956	2,708	.4	.3	19,711	5,268
S.M.	49,001	67,454	5.1	7.8	153,092	173,735
M.	28,328	16,993	3.0	2.0	88,201	75,568
S.L.M.	5,178	1,606	.5	.2	12,999	14,795
L.M.	359	37	*	*	615	2,402
S.G.O.	-	-	-	-	-	8
G.O.	-	-	-	-	-	-
White:						
M.F.	-	-	-	-	-	-
S.G.M.	10	-	*	*	251	1,219
G.M.	415	-	*	*	19,239	156,225
S.M.	9,169	11	1.0	.6	646,338	1,258,070
M.	121,909	4,936	12.8	10.9	4,021,682	3,356,088
S.L.M.	306,811	94,143	32.2	42.0	3,620,376	3,433,101
L.M.	210,782	361,410	22.1	19.4	853,965	709,705
S.G.O.	43,045	166,743	4.5	2.4	138,096	74,362
G.O.	4,303	20,911	.5	.4	15,130	7,159
Spotted:						
G.M.	1,401	656	.1	.1	28,865	18,220
S.M.	36,375	50,391	3.8	5.8	515,704	355,869
M.	92,830	59,084	9.7	6.9	394,759	213,482
S.L.M.	29,741	7,870	3.1	.9	83,939	23,176
L.M.	2,805	935	.3	.1	8,690	2,295
Tinged: 1/	872	444	.1	*	2,757	5,061
Yellow Stained 1/	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray 1/	6,286	1,313	.7	.2	13,780	4,430
Below Grade 2/	253	256	*	*	4,068	1,034
All grades 3/	953,829	861,454	100.0	100.0	10,648,257	9,897,972
						100.0

1/ Includes all grades.

2/ Bales that are lower in grade than the lowest official standard for the corresponding color group.

3/ As reported by the Bureau of the Census.

* Less than 0.05 percent.

UNITED STATES: ESTIMATED STAPLE LENGTH OF UPLAND COTTON GINNED

Length	November 1 - 13				Season thru November 13			
	1942 Bales	1943 Bales	1942 Pct.	1943 Pct.	1942 Bales	1943 Bales	1942 Pct.	1943 Pct.
3/4 and shorter	1,190	40,843	.1	4.8	5,896	152,833	*	1.5
13/16	36,011	122,951	3.8	14.3	240,382	538,439	2.3	5.4
7/8	100,990	77,781	10.6	9.0	682,245	583,227	6.4	5.9
29/32	66,697	43,422	7.0	5.0	676,779	544,462	6.4	5.5
15/16	95,479	78,890	10.0	9.2	1,119,712	1,103,942	10.5	11.2
31/32	88,786	89,803	9.3	10.4	1,181,348	1,244,177	11.1	12.6
1	151,785	146,494	15.9	17.0	1,846,698	2,033,961	17.3	20.5
1-1/32	156,252	104,290	16.4	12.1	2,057,557	1,844,077	19.3	18.6
1-1/16	103,383	56,964	10.8	6.6	1,414,067	956,322	13.3	9.7
1-3/32	95,509	70,658	10.0	8.2	744,126	432,883	7.0	4.4
1-1/8	32,571	11,780	3.4	1.4	368,756	181,952	3.5	1.8
1-5/32	7,686	7,281	.8	.8	118,671	95,922	1.1	1.0
1-3/16	4,574	6,678	.5	.8	63,929	84,481	.6	.9
1-7/32	3,916	2,766	.4	.3	38,152	48,129	.4	.5
1-1/4 and longer	8,992	853	1.0	.1	89,839	53,135	.8	.5
Perished Staple	8	-	*	-	100	30	*	*
All lengths	953,829	861,454	100.0	100.0	10,648,257	9,897,972	100.0	100.0
<hr/>								
		1942		1943		1942		1943
Grade Index								
Rough Preparation		92.3		93.5		96.2		97.0
Average Length, 32nd in.		3.4		1.8		9.0		6.1
Tend. Futures Contracts		31.8		30.6		32.1		31.6
		77.8		70.8		83.9		84.3